

Sample Public Service Announcements Adult Abuse Prevention Month May 2004

☐ **(30 seconds)**

With age comes wisdom and sometimes abuse. If you suspect an elderly or disabled adult is being mistreated, neglected, or harmed in any way, call the Adult Protective Services toll-free hot-line at **1-888-832-3858** or report what you suspect to the local department of social services. Elderly persons and Virginians with a disability deserve honor and respect.... not abuse.

☐ **(30 seconds)**

May is Adult Abuse Prevention Month. Abuse hurts individuals, families, and communities. The hurting won't stop until the silence is broken. If you suspect an older adult or an adult with a disability is being abused, neglected, or exploited, don't keep the secret. Call the toll-free hotline at **1-888-832-3858** or call Adult Protective Services at your local department of social services.

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What is abuse of vulnerable adults? It is pushing, shoving, hitting, leaving unattended a person who cannot care for self. It is taking money or other possessions from a vulnerable adult. You can help. Call the Adult Protective Services toll-free hotline at **1-888-832-3858** or report what you suspect to the local department of social services. Elderly persons and Virginians with a disability deserve honor and respect.... not abuse.

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Each year in Virginia, thousands of older adults and adults with disabilities are abused, neglected, or financially exploited. The mistreatment is often at the hands of a person trusted by the victim. Last year more than 6,000 such cases were confirmed in Virginia. If you suspect abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult, call the toll-free hotline at **1-888-832-3858** or call your local department of social services. Let's stop the hurting.

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For too many older and disabled Virginians, home is a sad place. Reach out for someone – you can make a difference. Caregiving may be very stressful and unsafe for both the caregiver and the person needing care. May is Adult Abuse

Prevention Month. Call Adult Protective Services at your local department of social service and ask how you can help. Report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation by calling the toll-free hotline at **1-888-832-3858** or report what you suspect to the local department of social services. Elderly persons and Virginians with a disability deserve honor and respect.... not abuse.

Additional Public Service Announcements Adult Abuse Prevention Month

1. Because of the frailty of its victims, adult abuse is always serious and sometimes fatal. Get involved. Help stop abuse of those least able to help themselves. Call the Adult Protective Services 24-hour hotline at **1-888-832-3858** to report suspected abuse or call your local department of social services to ask how you can help.
2. If the granddaughter of 70-year old Jenny steals from her purse or her checking or savings account, that's **ADULT ABUSE!** Report suspected financial abuse of elders to Adult Protective Services at your local department of social services, or call the 24-hour hotline at **1-888-832-3858**.
3. Sometimes caring hurts . . . on both sides. Whether you are an older adult or a person providing care to an older adult, if you need help, don't suffer in silence. Call Adult Protective Services at your local department of social services and ask for assistance in finding help **BEFORE** abuse occurs.
4. Abuse and neglect of incapacitated adults by a person who has responsibility for that adult's care, is a crime in Virginia. Report suspected abuse of incapacitated adults to law enforcement and to Adult Protective Services at your local department of social services or call the 24-hour hotline at **1-888-832-3858**.
5. Most incidents of adult abuse are never reported. For many elderly victims, the abuse continues unabated. You can help by refusing to keep the secret. Report suspected adult abuse to Adult Protective Services at your local department of social services or call the 24-hour hotline at **1-888-832-3858**.
6. Every 89 minutes an older person or Virginian with a disability is abused, neglected, or financially exploited. Report suspected adult abuse to Adult Protective Services at your local department of social services or call the 24-hour hotline at **1-888-832-3858**.